

Cherie Lunghi  
with Nicholas  
Farrell as  
the hospital  
chairman



# Opening old wounds

Revolution is in the air as *Casualty* turns the clock back 100 years

**NEW MEDICAL DRAMA**

**Casualty 1909**

Sunday, BBC1 & BBC HD, 9pm

If you thought the blood and guts of *Casualty* and *Holby City* were hard to take, try paying a visit to *Casualty 1909*. Following on from the success of spin-offs *Casualty*

1906 and 1907, the period medical drama revisits the lives and work of doctors and nurses at the London Hospital 100 years ago, a time when the medical procedures were not for the squeamish.

To add to the drama, revolution is in the air in this week's opening episode. When victims of an explosion pour into the receiving room, the hospital is gripped by fear and suspicion as everyone wonders whether anarchists are to blame for the bombing.

'The world is changing,' says Cherie Lunghi, who reprises her role as Matron Eva Luckes alongside returning cast members Nicholas Farrell and Sarah Smart,

and new faces Paul Hilton and Anton Lesser. 'We get a glimpse of the suffragettes, and the storylines also cover issues such as anarchy, immigration, over-population and anger at police intervention in the hospital. There are some interesting parallels with life today.'

The impact of new medical discoveries is also addressed when a young boy dies under anaesthetic, and the doctors must justify the worryingly high death toll caused by their pioneering new procedures.

'The show's fascinating to me because it's based on documents from the time,' says Lunghi. 'There's a little bit of invention, but it's mostly based on real events.'